

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AF-10 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 EA-11 FRB-02 INR-10 IO-12 NSAE-00

RSC-01 OPIC-12 TRSE-00 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

SS-15 NSC-10 RSR-01 L-03 /168 W
----- 110360

R 191150 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2329

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 3441

BRUSSELS FOR USEC

PARIS FOR OECD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRDJD IR, LU

SUBJECT: IRAN AND EEC

1. DURING COURTESY CALL AT EMBASSY MAY 17 VAN VLOTEN, NEW DUTCH DCM, PASSED ON FOLLOWING ABOUT RECENT VISIT TO TEHRAN OF LUXEMBOURG FO FAN GASTON THORN.

2. THORN HAD BEEN FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY PROGRESS BEING ACHIEVED BY IRAN, WHICH HAD RAISED STANDARD OF LIVING AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY FAR AHEAD OF ITS NEIGHBORS.

3. AT MEETINGS WITH SHAH AND PRIME MINISTER HOVEYDA, PRINCIPAL SUBSTANTIVE POINT THAT AROSE WAS IRAN'S RELATIONS WITH EEC. THORN TOLD SHAH THAT IRAN'S EXCLUSION OF OIL EXPORTS TO EEC COUNTRIES IN CALCULATING TRADE BALANCE WITH THEM WAS UNREASONABLE AND UNTENABLE AND MADE AS MUCH SENSE AS LUXEMBOURG
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EXCLUDING ITS STEEL EXPORTS IN CALCULATING ITS OWN TRADE BALANCES. THORN SAID SHAH AGREED THAT HE HAD A POINT. THORN ALSO TOLD SHAH AND HOVEYDA THAT IF IRAN FELT IT WAS BEING DISCRIMINATED AGAINST BY EEC IT SHOULD PROPOSE OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. IRAN COULD NOT EXPECT TO HAVE SAME KIND OF RELATIONSHIP WITH EEC AS TURKEY, WHICH WAS CONSIDERED TO BE PART OF EUROPE, OR AS CERTAIN AFRICAN COUNTRIES WHERE SPECIAL CONDITIONS PREVAIL. HOWEVER, IF IRAN WISHED TO OPEN NEGOTIATIONS THESE WOULD BE WELCOME, BUT IRAN SHOULD NOT APPROACH THESE DISCUSSIONS IN AGGRIEVED MANNER BUT AS COUNTRY WHICH FELT IT HAD LEGITIMATE PROBLEMS TO TAKE UP WITH EEC.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts:
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973TEHRAN03441
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: RR
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730551/aaaajori.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 AUG 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Aug-2001 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <01-Oct-2001 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980226
Subject: IRAN AND EEC
TAGS: ETRD, IR, LU
To: BRUSSELS
BRUSSELS
LUXEMBOURG
NEA
PARIS
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005